

PATROL SQUADRON FOUR HOSTS ENNA AND CATANIA INTERACT CLUBS

By: LTJG Miyuki Kauffroath

In keeping with the desire to foster new relationships with the local community, the “Skinny Dragons” of Patrol Squadron FOUR (VP-4) proudly hosted the Catania and Enna Interact Clubs at Naval Air Station Sigonella last Sunday. “It was a really cool experience to interact with not only the Italian culture, but also a younger generation within the community,” said Petty Officer Samuel Sutton.

The visit showcased the power of the P-3 by exposing students to both an interior and exterior aircraft tour, as well as ordnance familiarization. Transcending the language barrier, LCDR Ryan Davis, LT Ever Garay, Senior Chief Stanley Lenover, Petty Officer Jamie Ty, Petty Officer Brittany Minor, Petty Officer Samuel Sutton, and Petty Officer Aaron Vandivort took turns answering the students’ questions and highlighting the value of the P-3 mission within the aviation community.

The students found the event to be “cool, neat, and interesting,” while also emphasizing their enjoyment of seeing the American military in their uniforms. Following the display, students were given an opportunity to take pictures of the aircraft and pose for a group photo. These community relations events strengthen the American-Italian relationship and will continue to be a regular occurrence for the “Skinny Dragons” during their stay in Sigonella.



DSC_8980 - (130203) Children from the Rotary club here in Sicily pose for a group photo with Sailors attached to Patrol Squadron FOUR (VP-4) in front of one of VP-4's P3-C Orion aircraft. VP-4 is currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.



DSC_8970 - (130203) Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd class Matthew Elliott, attached to Patrol Squadron FOUR, explains to children visiting from the Rotary club here in Sicily the importance of the MARK-46 torpedo. VP-4 is currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.